

200    *THE CASTAWAYS OF  
THE FLAG*

It was, indeed., from that island  
that the  
first report had come, as well as the  
second with  
the ball aimed at the pirogue\* No  
doubt the  
islanders had found refuge under the  
protection  
of the battery which the savages did  
not venture  
to approach. Above it was the red  
and white  
flag of New Switzerland, while on the  
topmost  
peak in all the island floated the  
British flag!

Impossible to depict the joy, the  
delirium to  
which those so lately in despair now  
abandoned  
themselves I And their emotions  
were shared  
by those true comrades, Captain Gould  
and the  
boatswain.

There was no further idea of going  
to Rock  
Castle ; they would leave Falconhurst  
only to go-  
how, they did not know—to Shark's  
Island. If  
only it had been possible to  
communicate with  
it by signals from the top of the  
mangrove, to  
wave a flag to which the flag on the  
battery might  
reply! But that might have been  
unwise, unwise  
too, to fire a few shots with the pistol,  
for, though  
these might be heard by M. Zermatt,  
they might  
also be heard by the savages, if they

were stil  
prowling about Falconhurst.

It was most important that they  
should noi  
know of the presence of Captain Gould  
and hi  
v . party, lor these could not have  
withstood a com  
bi&ed attack by all the savages now in  
possessio3

of Rock  
Castle,